The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the judicial, legislative, and political fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE ! EDUCATE ! ORGANIZE !

Entered as second-class matter September 21, 1915, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

VOL. 9. NO. 19. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1919. WHOLE NO. 435.

HIGH COST OF LIVING AFFECTS N. Y. BABIES

New York, Aug. 2.—In an investigation conducted by the municipal health department it is found that high prices rob babies, children and adults of needed food and retard recovery from illness.

The investigation was conducted by the nurses of the bureau of preventable diseases and 2,084 families were studied.

Special attention was given to the influence of the high cost of living upon children. It was found in 293 families the use of bottled milk was given up. In 544 families milk was entirely eliminated from the children's dietary, and in 71 the amount used for children was considerably reduced.

In 270 families the use of butter was eliminated for children; in 191 families the amount used was reduced.

Sugar was omitted from the children's diet in 71 families and reduced in 120 families. The use of meat in the diet of children was given up in 544 families and reduced in 238.

Eggs were entirely eliminated from the diet of children in 532 families and reduced in 107.

In 507 families meat was entirely eliminated. In 258 families the amount of meat purchased was appreciably reduced. In 832 families eggs were eliminated and in 615 families butter was eliminated.

In speaking of the appearance from illness the nurses found that 287 cases out of 2183 were delightfully normal due to inability to obtain essentials of life. Among the adults the total amount of the wages lost during the protracted period, was $41,295.

"It may be amazing to many," it is stated, "that of these families, representing a thirty cross section of conditions in New York, only one per cent should have a total income of $600 a year or less for the support of an average family of five persons during the beginning of 1918. An average family had a total income of from $600 to $900 a year, and about 21 per cent had an income of from $900 to $1200 a year."

A little over 5 per cent of these families were compelled to accept charity and in 9.8 per cent of the homes the women were forced into industry.

WEARY OF NON-UNIONISM.

Cincinnati, Aug. 2.—"We are weary of attempting to conduct on a non-union basis and want to reach an agreement with the International Molders' Union," is the substance of a statement to President Valentine of that organization by a representative of the N. K. Stove and Range company, Louisville, Ky.

The conference resulted in an understanding and the molding department is now strictly union.

The importance of this voluntary action by the company can be appreciated when it is recalled that the concern is one of the best known stove companies in the south, and since a molders' strike 12 years ago has been non-union and has been pointed to by anti-union manufacturers as justification for their opposition to organized labor.

The company's alleged success was frequently commented on at meetings of southern foundry men and the fact that it has been the mecca of other employers to secure information on the company's success. But this success is now known to be a sham—the company acknowledges that non-unionism does not pay.

Officers of this international union declare that the incident is of tremendous importance to the southern stove industry.

FIRST AIR STRIKE ENDS.

Washington, Aug. 2. — The first strike of air pilots in this country has ended by a compromise. The strike was called by the postoffice department's failure to reinstate two pilots who refused to fly mail planes they declared were dangerous. The strike threatened to spread to other sections of the country.

These workers were handled in a different manner than is the case with other workers who complain of grievances in the postoffice department, and after a conference with the pilots it was decided to ask that one of the discharged pilots was reinstated and the other's case "presents complications which require separate action."

The strike afforded much amusement for shallow editors who attempted to be funny about "picketing the mail airplanes," etc., and who ignored the demand of these workers that danger to their lives be minimized.

ARRANGE FOR LABOR MEET.

Washington, Aug. 2.—The department of labor has appointed Miss Grace Abbott to be the organization representative of the international labor conference which meets in Washington in connection with the first conference at Washington, next October. The labor conference was created by the peace treaty. America's representative on the organization committee is Professor Shotwell of Columbia university, who is also assisted in London by Herbert Stewart of the department of labor.

INSIST ON SIX-DAY WEEK.

Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 2.—The minimum wage and maximum hour commission has refused to abolish the six-day section of the 54-hour law for women and permit seven-day labor. The request was made by hotel men, who claim they are facing ruin and starvation if these women are not permitted to "enjoy" a seven-day week.

STEEL TRUST IS HAPPY.

New York, Aug. 2.—The United States steel corporation continues to rake in the nimble nickel. Its last report showed that during the quarter ended June 30 last net earnings were over $1,000,000 in excess of the previous quarter.

In reporting for the board of directors, Chairman Gary declared that prospects are bright.

VOTES FOR WOMEN UPHELD.

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 2.—The state supreme court had upheld the recently enacted Tennessee law which gives women the right to vote in municipal and presidential elections. The decision reverses Chancellor Newman of this county, who held that the act violates the state constitution.

URGE PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Testifying before the federal electric railway commission, Governor Foss of Massachusetts declared that the electric street car lines in his state would be heads to toward public ownership before the snow flies, and that there has been no fair test of government ownership in the government operation of the railroads. Wall street and propaganda, he said, were responsible for trying to make the public think the steam lines are now under actual government ownership.

"I have come to the conclusion that government ownership has failed, and public ownership is the only true solution of this question, whether it be electric or steam railway. Private ownership has fallen down. We have got to democratize our transportation system; then we have got to democratize our industries; otherwise they will be in the condition they are in abroad.

"Private management has got to relinquish control of all railroad and public service corporations. Why? you must keep these railroads out of politics. Why, great heavens, we have been in politics for 50 years. The quasi-public corporations have done more than anybody to debauch legislatures. We have got to take them over to keep them out of politics."

James L. Quackenbush, attorney for the Interborough Rapid Transit company, New York city, declared that government ownership of these systems is "stuff and nonsense."

BACK PAYMENTS WIPED OUT.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Discharged service men who let their government insurance lapse and who lost the privilege of reinstating their policies within 18 months without physical examination, under an order issued by Secretary of the Treasury Glass, have the new regulation is regarded as the most liberal ever offered by any insurance organization, and the only one under which it possible for every discharged soldier, sailor and marine to secure insurance protection insurance after returning to civil life.

The only requirement is that the man requesting reinstatement must be in a good health as at the time his policy lapsed, pay one full premium for the one month of grace, in which his insurance was continued after he stopped payment and the premium for the next month, for which he receives a statement.

The reason for this requirement is that no risk incurred was protected by having his policy continued in force for two months after it lapsed, and his dependents would have received the face of the policy.

The insurance officials say that many service men have been deterred from reinstating policies because they did not wish to pay or could not pay the accumulated premiums. The new order permits a man to start all over and secure the insurance both as a protection to his dependents and as an investment.

WANT 44-HOUR WEEK.

New York, Aug. 2.—Officers of the Union Label trades department, and the National Silk Association of America that a 44-hour week in the silk industry should be established at the earliest possible time and instructed that they are ready to negotiate on that basis.

Three years ago the union reduced the hours of silk workers to 50 per week and last fall reduced these figures to 48.

Shamokin, Pa., Aug. 2.—The J. P. and C. K. Eagle silk mills have granted the shorter hour demand of 1,600 employes after an 11-day strike. Wages are increased and the week is reduced from 52 1-2 to 50 hours, and the agreement is to run for two years. The plant will not recognize the United Textile Workers' union, but the settlement was negotiated by officers of this union, who are assured that all strikers will be reinstated. The victory is one of the most decisive ever secured by workers in this vicinity.

ASK HIGHER WAGES.

Scranton, Pa., Aug. 2.—Anthracite mine workers in this district have decided that their new agreement raises wages 69 per cent. Other demands include a five and one-half days' work week and a six-hour day. The present agreement expires in March, next year.

In an address to the convention, President Kennedy of adjoining district No. 1 declared that mine workers should have the shortest work week and the largest degree of skill in the country. In referring to the charge that high wages are responsible for present conditions, he stated that the cost of transporting coal from Scranton to New York or Philadelphia is greater than the cost of producing the coal and loading it on cars for shipment.

KEY MEN TO CONFER.

Chicago, Aug. 2.—A special convention of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America will convene in Kansas City August 25, and will replace the regular convention scheduled for the first Monday in October.

The general executive board states that the reason for the special session is to reorganize by the elimination of C. T. U. A., we earnestly request all subordinate units to send a full delegation."

OUT BUT TWO HOURS.

St. Catherines, Canada, Aug. 2.—Carpenters in this city were refused a wage increase and fled up building operations. They were out but two hours when the bosses raised rates from 65 cents an hour to 75 cents.

DEMAND FOOD SALE.

Washington, Aug. 2.—The house has adopted a resolution requesting Secretary of War Baker to place on sale without delay surplus food products held by the army department and valued at $130,000,000.

WAGE GAINS FOR CAR MEN.

Danbury, Conn., Aug. 2.—An arbitration board has awarded the Danbury & Bethel street Railway company platform men a wage increase that raises rates from 35 cents an hour to 44 cents.

U. S. PENSION PLAN IS "GOOD BUSINESS"

Washington, Aug. 2.—The government should adopt a retirement plan for its employes because this would mean "greater efficiency and economy to the government service," states a report to the senate by the committee on civil service in favoring a bill for the retirement of civil service employes.

While the committee presents other arguments, it emphasizes the fact that the "good business" theme has been to retire these aged employes who are, in fact, pensioners now.

"It has long been evident," says the committee, "that in the various administrative branches of the government employes have been retained long after they had, by reason of age and bodily infirmity, ceased to be efficient. The law having made no provision for their support in their old age or in part during their declining years, the heads of departments and bureaus have thought sympathetically many aged employes in the nominal service of the government and their names on the pay roll. The real work of the position, in such cases, has devolved on other and younger employes. This, of course, has resulted in loss to the government and it would appear that in some cases the equivalent of the two salaries has been paid for the work being done for which the compensation should be but one salary. Of course, such work done by those whose faculties are impaired by age is not, as a rule, efficiently done, and the economy to be effected in this respect sustains a loss difficult to estimate.

"The system is a vicious one, both from the standpoint of economy and efficiency. To the average employe, drawing the regular salary for his position, it is impossible to perform fully or efficiently the work of the average person in his place. It is a serious handicap to the pensioner of the government, and, as above stated, the additional economy our committee has been called to many cases where the service rendered is of such character as slight that he is practically a pensioner to the full amount of his salary.

"While such employes are thus pensioners, the system which permits them to be such is not a pension system."

STRIKING GIRLS ENJOINED.

Chicago, Aug. 2.—Superior Court Judge Smith presents an odd figure with his injunction against striking telephone girls. Garbed in red and decent store of F. W. Woolworth company, while admitting that the girls are striking, one of the girls are demanding a living wage and that this insurance was the power of the state of Illinois behind him, orders the girls to desist from striking, or from in any manner interfering with the business of the company. The girls have struck. They have been paid from $4 to $7 a week and are seeking a $11 minimum. Two months ago the operators of this chain of stores, died recently, left $1,000,000 to charity. In 1906, The South Chicago branch is the only non-union store in that locality.

The officers of the Telephone News interviewed Judge Sullivan in his chambers and he issued the order and the court bailiff, and when pinned down the judge was forced to admit that the injunction permitted just their power of issuing these orders. In connection on this admission, the editor says:

"While it has never been proved that these women have been paid by the big interests whom they serve when issuing the injunction, we think I am forced to the conclusion that if they are not they should be so paid. Injunctions are issued in the interests than they receive from the people whose servants they are supposed to be."

MOLDERS FORCED OUT.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Aug.—Iron molders employed by the Dunlap Foundry and Machine company have been forced on the street because the company refused to apply a wage award made last May by the national war labor board. The award was made the war is over and production must be increased. This company is one of Fort Wayne's leading low wage industries and it is charged with discharging men because of their racial prejudices of its employes, by this means keeping them in place. The Fort Wayne Worker declares the company is "a typical slave driving concern, and the Fort Wayne Worker declares the company is "a typical slave driving concern, and the men are now out with the work day ranging from 12 to 14 hours.

EDUCATING SOLDIERS.

Washington Aug. 2.—More than 1,000 disabled ex-service men are now in training under the direction of the federal board for vocational education. Of these 35 per cent are preparing for some trade or industry, 30 per cent are studying commercial courses, 15 per cent are training for some profession, principally law, and 10 per cent are studying agriculture in some form, and almost as large a percentage are taking general educational courses, needed for their vocational training to be taken later in its appeal to racial prejudices of its employes, by this means keeping them in place. The Fort Wayne Worker declares the company is "a typical slave driving concern, and the men are now out with the work day ranging from 12 to 14 hours.

EDUCATING SOLDIERS.

Washington Aug. 2.—More than 1,000 disabled ex-service men are now in training under the direction of the federal board for vocational education. Of these 35 per cent are preparing for some trade or industry, 30 per cent are studying commercial courses, 15 per cent are training for some profession, principally law, and 10 per cent are studying agriculture in some form, and almost as large a percentage are taking general educational courses, needed for their vocational training to be taken later in its appeal to racial prejudices of its employes, by this means keeping them in place. The Fort Wayne Worker declares the company is "a typical slave driving concern, and the men are now out with the work day ranging from 12 to 14 hours.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Hamilton, Canada, Aug. 2.—Commercial shop members of the typographical union have raised wages 20 per cent. Similar increases are to be granted by newspaper printers.

Boston, Aug. 2.—The Typographical union has rejected a wage offer of $32 and $34 a week for its commercial shop members and is demanding $37, regardless of scale.

REJECT SUFF AMENDMENT.

Atlanta, Aug. 2.—The state senate has refused to adopt the equal suffrage amendment to the federal constitution. President Wilson urged the lawmakers to approve the act, as Georgia is the second state to refuse ratification. Alabama also refusing. Eleven states have ratified, as follows: Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Kansas, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Texas, Iowa and Missouri.

LAUNDRY WORKERS UNITE.

Oakland, Cal., Aug. 2.—A strong Laundry Workers' union has been organized in this city. During the past few years laundry prices have almost doubled, but the pay of laundry workers has not the same old rate. The employes are now being bamboozled by the bosses.

MUST WORK 7-DAY WEEK TO GET MINIMUM WAGE

Spokane, Aug. 2.—Superior Court Judge Sturn has ruling that women must work seven days a week if employers pay them the $13.20 weekly wage fixed as a minimum for the state of Washington.

The court says: "It is practically the universal holding of the courts, in the absence of statute, that a week is a period of seven consecutive days."

He dismissed a hotelkeeper who had been charged with working women days in one week.

Last year at a conference between employers, employed and state officials it was agreed that the weekly minimum wage for women should be $12.20.

Later the state industrial commission made the following ruling:

"Where a period of seven consecutive days is worked by employes, the rate of 2½ cents per hour."

Judge Hurn held that this was not part of the agreement at the conference, which merely established the weekly wage.

In commenting upon this decision, Editor Coates of the Spokane Labor World says:

"It all sums up again what the editor of this paper has written time and again! Without a strong economic organization legislation is absolutely worthless. Here is being paid the wage of Washington will only organize there will be an increase in wages. Laws or rulings on what will constitute a week's work. There is a lesson in this for women. Do the women will take heed?

"Minimum wage advocates believe that the decision has nullified the purpose of the conference which set the minimum wage and another conference is now being discussed. This decision places employers in a position unable to perform fully or efficiently the work of the average person in his place. It is a serious handicap to the pensioner of the government, and, as above stated, the additional economy our committee has been called to many cases where the service rendered is of such character as slight that he is practically a pensioner to the full amount of his salary. Of course, such work done by those whose faculties are impaired by age is not, as a rule, efficiently done, and the economy to be effected in this respect sustains a loss difficult to estimate.

"The system is a vicious one, both from the standpoint of economy and efficiency. To the average employe, drawing the regular salary for his position, it is impossible to perform fully or efficiently the work of the average person in his place. It is a serious handicap to the pensioner of the government, and, as above stated, the additional economy our committee has been called to many cases where the service rendered is of such character as slight that he is practically a pensioner to the full amount of his salary.

"While such employes are thus pensioners, the system which permits them to be such is not a pension system."

CAN'T EVADE THIS LAW.

San Francisco, Aug. 2.—In urging workers to be cautious at their employment Chief of Boiler Inspection Bellingham of the state industrial accident commission says it is no excuse to say that an employe has worked around a piece of machinery for many years without an accident.

"The law of averages is the law that can't be repealed or amended, and it affects every employe alike, who takes an unnecessary chance is, under this law of average, probably going to be one of the unfortunate misshap.

"The unfortunate part of this law of averages is that it may not affect him personally, but it may affect some fellow workman who may be the victim of the accident that he has been courting for various months or years.

"Each worker should remember that when an accident happens it is he who must put up with the pain and suffering. He is the one in most cases, with the disfigurement, or partial or total disability. He is the one who is robbed by the accident of the 100 per cent earning capacity with which he has been endowed.

"Neither is his home are entitled to the benefits to be derived from that 100 per cent earning capacity but he is robbed of every possible care to avoid accident is virtually robbing him and those dependent on him."

CHINESE IN POSTOFFICE.

Washington, Aug. 2.— Postmaster Burleson has announced that he will ask the mail problem of the nation's capital by employing his Chinese cooks and laundry to spare time in the city postoffice, said Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Flynn of the National Federation of Postal Employes in the course of the Washington chamber of commerce that is investigating defects in the local mail service.

"Mr. Burleson," said the trade unionist, evidently thinks he has done his full duty to correct postal conditions by having his cook distribute mail between lunch courses, but efficient mail force cannot be recruited from Chinese cooks. This can only be obtained by improving postal working conditions so that American young men may see a future in the service if their vocation. At present the postoffice is justly termed the national sweatshop."

MODEST REAL ESTATE MEN.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Some Charleston, S. C., citizens have formed a real est sort of chaps, and only ask a 10,000 per cent profit from Uncle Sam.

This is shown in a report by the war department's board of appraisers on property in and around Charleston, which the government wants for terminal purposes. The appraisers found a price of $2,000 an acre and one claimant wanted $1,857 an acre. Instead of the $726,000 asked by the principal claimant, the report recommends $40,500 as a fair compensation.

Of the $726,000 asked by the principal claimant, the report recommends $40,500 as a fair compensation.

Another claimant asked for $600,000 and now asked to "about 10,000 per cent increase over the purchase price of six years ago."

SHIP YARD STRIKE WON.

Montreal, Canada, Aug. 2.—Striking workers in the Canadian Vickers shipbuilding plant have won a big victory over this concern, which has been notorious for its hostility to organized labor. Wages of the basic trades are advanced 2 cents an hour, making a 75-cent minimum. Laborers are advanced from 25 cents an hour to 30 cents a month and the 48-hour work week has been established.

The Vickers concern has sums of money to defeat the strikers, and when the latter won the local press made much of the incident.

GOES UP SIX MILES.

New York, Aug. 2.—Roland Rohlfs, an air ship pilot, broke the world's record for altitude flights, towards nearly six miles, or 21,100 feet. He said the temperature was the highest point in his flight was 35 degrees below zero. In making the flight he covered more than 200 miles. The plane was equipped with a 400-horse power motor. Rohlfs broke the former record by 2,300 feet.

WANT H. C. OF L. BONUS.

Paris, France, Aug. 2.—Charging that the government is not using its power to protect workers against living costs, which are continually soaring, organized employes in the postal, telegraph and telephone service demand a high-cost-of-living bonus of $25 a month.

COPPERSMITHS GAIN.

Cincinnati, Aug. 2.—Coppersmiths have secured a union shop agreement and raised wages 25 cents an hour.

RAILROAD SOLUTION PUTS SERVICE FIRST

Washington, Aug. 2.—If the public will accept the railroad employment solution the railroad question these workers will show what real railroad management is when it is once free from manipulation, waste and politics, declared Grand Chief Stone of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

"Labor's plan for railroad reconstruction," he said, "may be summarized by saying that it is operation by the men under the control of a board of 15 directors, which will be divided into three groups—those who have been representative of the operating officials, five the classified employes, and the remainder chosen by the president to represent the public. This board is democratically constituted on the principle that operating railroads is a matter of efficiency and skill. Both of these are matters of fact, not of partisan factors, not to be found in the heads of railroad labor at the end of the fiscal year, nor in the arguments of learned counsel at rate hearings, nor talked over in the lobby of a Wall street board of directors declares a dividend.

"Such a corporation will have no other capital than the managers' and workers' skill and efficiency. If the plan is accepted we expect to show the country what real railroad management, free of manipulation from above, free of petty politics from below and politics, may be made to mean. The workers are to be amply rewarded for efficiency. The public efficiency—the plan shows that clearly enough.

"Where is the public's equity in the plan?" is a question that will be asked from many quarters. The public's interborne in mind that the public is the employer of labor and the railroads their master. Congress could revoke the law whether if the corporation fails to make good. The interstate commerce commission retains the ratemaking power, and the president's proposal to reduce rates whenever the government's share of the net earnings is in excess of 6 per cent of cross operating revenue. How long to it since the railroads have earned that relationship have made any proposal by which rates can be reduced.

"We believe that by efficient railroad management passenger rates can be lowered and that the present high freight rates 30 to 40 per cent. And ultimately the railroads will belong to the country debt-free, and labor will be a permanent partner in the most successful enterprise which the world has seen."

ONE KIND OF FREE SPEECH.

Washington, Aug. 1.—A. F. of L. Secretary Frank Morrison has received from Wm. Z. Foster, secretary of the steel workers' organizing committee, a letter and steel workers, a signed "permit" to hold a public meeting in McKeesport, Pa., which is addressed to the chief of police and signed by Mayor Lysle. It is as follows:

"This is to certify that the McKeesport Steel Co. has made application to hold a meeting in Slovak hall on Walnut street, Tuesday evening, July 15, 1919.

"Permission is granted subject to the following conditions, and is also subject to police regulation:

"That the meeting shall talk in any other language except the English language.

"That a list of the speakers' names be submitted to the mayor before the meeting is held.

Secretary Foster states that trade unionists are paying no attention to regulations that are only intended to deny free speech. In reply to Secretary Morrison, he writes, "under the auspices of the national committee, are now holding meetings in private and are not submitting lists of speakers to the mayor."

Trade unionists make the point that Mayor Lysle is not empowered to say he stated that only English-speaking workers shall be employed.

START LABOR PARTY.

New Ulm, Minn., Aug. 2.—Thomas Van Lear, former mayor of Minneapolis, was elected secretary-treasurer of the Working People's Non-Partisan Political League of Minnesota. This movement was launched by a conference of labor delegates to the Minnesota state federation of labor. It was voted to co-operate with the farmers' non-partisan leagues of North Dakota and Minnesota.

The purpose of the league, it was declared, is "to unite members of organized labor and sympathizers into movements in sympathy with those of the common people, to the end that representatives may be elected to public office who will enact, interpret and administer laws that will serve the general welfare in accordance with the platform adopted at this conference."

"HANDS OFF UNIONS."

Washington, Aug. 2.—"Keep hands off trade unions" is the essence of the present order issued by the director department of the army, by Brigadier General Peterson, chief of ordnance. The order is directed to officers in charge of workers and declares that "it must be thoroughly understood that there shall be no abridgement of the rights of labor, or abridgement of the functions of unions or societies, associations or unions of any kind, and no limitations upon collective bargaining between labor and those bodies and the proper ordnance representatives."

CO-OPS. FOR FREE TRADE.

Paris, France, Aug. 2.—The international conference of co-operative societies has declared for the abolition of all import and export duties on the necessaries of life and on products required for the reconstruction of industry. The conference favors the free exchange of food supplies of the world, same to be distributed according to the needs of the various countries.

WANT UNION SHOP.

Wilmington, Del., Aug. 2.—The building trades council has demanded the union shop agreement. These workmen insist that they make the conditions and that every building employe must aid in the fight for better conditions. The bosses favor the "open shop" and declare that they are ready to "fight to a finish." The bosses say that a trade unionist coming in the front door will be kicked clear through the rear door.

VIEWS ON EFFICIENCY.

Quincy, Mass., Aug. 2.—The Granite Cutters' Journal prints this conversation on the much-discussed efficiency question:

"Boss—Better consider my colors in efficiency training. I can show you how to earn more money than you are getting."

"Hired Man—I do that now."

MINERS NOT WORKING SAYS U. S. OFFICIAL

Washington, Aug. 2.—In a speech on the situation in the bituminous industry, Congressman Huddleston of Alabama read a letter from Director General Dennison of the United States employment service which states that unemployment and distress prevails among miners in certain sections of the United States.

"Ever since the armistice was signed," says Mr. Denamore, "thousands of miners have been idle. Unemployment has been keenly felt in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and the southwestern districts. Production of bituminous coal has decreased in the period ending June 28, 1919, from 212,000,000 as compared with 284,000,000 for the same period in 1918 and the production of anthracite coal from 69,000,000 to 28,000,000 tons.

"This is due to the fact that coal mines have been shut down and miners thrown out of work because out of employment. The coal operators allege that this idleness is caused because there is no demand for coal.

"Unemployment in certain sections of Indiana, Illinois and Ohio is such as to create distress and suffering among a large number of miners and their families.

"There are approximately the same number of men, 1,000,000, employed in and around the coal mines now as there were in 1914, respective sections, due to idleness, Italians and Slavs from Europe have returned to their native lands, but this has been offset by the return of thousands of men who were in the army and navy during the war."

FAVORS ORDERLY PROGRESS.

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, Aug. 2.—The Queensland Workers' Political League of labor government, who is a former president of the Queensland branch of the Australian Workers' union, calls on trade unionists to continue their orderly progress and reject one-big-union sensationalism.

"The A. W. U. has been one of the older organizations," he says, "have been working upon sound lines of industrial solidarity and have, from time to time, considered and adopted schemes for the effective organization of the workers, and it would be ill-advised for them to adopt half baked ideas in place of the well thought out. The Australian Workers' union, since 1913, has been considering the question of the lines of closer organization and amalgamation with weaker unions, in although there be much strife, there has been a gradual process, but a very efficient one.

"The promoters of the o. b. u. think that by simply publishing a manifesto from Melbourne, they can bring about the realization of a perfect system of industrial organization. That is a foolish assumption and I am satisfied that the consolidation of union forces in Australia will be made along the lines of methods adopted by the A. W. U. which is the most modern industrial organizations."

The Queensland labor party, which is the political arm of the Australian labor party that survived the war, is composed of labor Australian states being declared.

FAULTY WIRE SERVICE.

Chicago, Aug. 2.—Officers of the Commercial Telegraphers' union of America Workers are threatened business is at its worst just now throughout the country. Telegrams are being delayed from 12 to 24 hours with the smaller offices experiencing the greatest delay. Relay offices to handle their business.

This condition is traced to the anti-union policy of the Western Union. Tyner and officials call attention to Postmaster General Burleson's claim that as director of wires he had no right to say who the company shall hire. The government, he claims, guarantees the company fixed dividends, and the company, of course, is anxious to secure cheap labor, and will control gets the blame for present incompetency.

SET $12.50 WAGE.

Boston, Aug. 2.—With living costs higher than at any other time in the nation's history, the state minimum wage commission has set a weekly minimum wage of $12.50 for women workers in the state. It was also set grocers for $7 for board and lodging. Each grocer is allowed 16 cents for incidentals. She is allowed 6 cents for laundry. She is also supposed to ask the ocean to launder other garments that the 90-cent piece will cover.

Other items will permit of these budget orders: Doctors and dentists, 20 cents; church, 11 cents; newspapers and magazines, 18 cents; vacation, 4 cents; saving and insurance, 26 cents.

VICTIMIZE GIRLS

Tacoma, Wash. Aug. 2.—After winning their strike for higher wages and retroactive pay, telephone girls in this city and Seattle are being victimized. The company agreed that there would be no discrimination.

The strike involved several thousand employes of the Pacific Telephone operators, affiliated with the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and extended through the Pacific coast states.

COULDN'T SEE THE JOKE.

New Ulm, Minn., Aug. 2.—A one-big-union resolution was rejected by the annual convention of the Minnesota state federation of labor. It was presented by the Minneapolis Milk Wagon Drivers' union, and declared that there is no possibility of further improvement in craft unionism."

The resolution that also being continually made by milk wagon drivers, the delegates couldn't see the joke.

MAY RECEIVE BENEFITS.

Manchester, England, Aug. 2.—A court of referees has ruled that cotton workers who have been thrown out of work because of a refusal of spinners to accept an agreement for a 48-hour week are entitled to government out-of-work benefits.

RAISE WAGES 25 PER CENT.

Cincinnati, Aug. 2.—A 10 per cent increase has been secured by Garment Workers' union No. 8. A few months ago rates were advanced 10 per cent.

"ORDER VS. PANIC."

Chicago, Aug. 2.—"It is either orderly development or a panic with the inevitable rout," declares President Perkins of the Chicago Makers' International union in writing in the official Journal of that organization on the need for trade unionists to do their duty.

"It is under construction along orderly lines," continues President Perkins, "or over the precipice of destruction, by following destructive leadership. Let us all have the courage of our convictions and stand manfully by the orderly, constructive methods.

"The workers are the victims of environment and conditions. We don't blame people who have been forced to work for low wages, long hours and under miserable living conditions, for holding resentment and bitterness in their hearts and minds. They have been brow beaten, cheated and robbed by unscrupulous manufacturers; they have been lied to by unscrupulous hair brained, radical, self constituted would-be leaders, who have unhesitatingly declared that financial ruin, moral impoverishment and the officers and members thereof.

"Let us come and in this crisis we ask the unorganized and others, to organize. Let us not be stampeded in the face; to inquire what the international union is; to ascertain the facts; to consider the fair offers and its officers are, and then to consider for themselves what is best for us."

SHIPPING STRIKE IS WON.

New York, Aug. 2.—The strike of seamen, firemen and other employes of the Clyde steamship company, private shipping trade has been settled by the ship owners day this, of course, and insist that they intended to grant the demands, anyway. Under the terms of the settlement wages are increased, hours are reduced and promises made that other grievances will be remedied.

The strike was successful in every waged by these workers on the Atlantic coast. Only one ship is in this city alone between 500 and 600 ships were tied up. Every one who is not unionists agreed to man a fleet of cattle boats, which carried several thousand milk cows to France.

PACKERS MAKE SENTIMENT.

Washington, Aug. 2.—Meat packers were denounced in the United States senate by Senator Kenyon because of their unfair methods in creating opposition to legislation proposed to regulate this industry.

Senator Kenyon declared that the packers' agents traveling through the country interviewing retail merchants, telling them that the senate will destroy them, borrowing letters and telegrams from merchants, reading heads from certain prominent citizens, with intent to make members of congress, stimulating commercial bodies and banks to bring pressure. Bills will be simply destroy the nation."

Senator Kenyon presented letters from farmers' men to support his charge.

Other senators stated that they have received similar protests against regulation of the packing industry. One senator written along lines that would indicate that the sentiment was manufactured.

CHILDREN ARE HUNGRY.

Washington, Aug. 2.—The attention of social unrest problem is called by a bulletin issued by Miss Julia Roberts of the children's bureau, department of labor, which declares that 40 per cent American children are not getting enough to eat.

"Many of these children are going hungry, says Miss Roberts, because their parents are not able to buy a sufficient amount of suitable nourishing food. Thousands of American families are in this condition, and this does not permit of an adequate diet. Families of five children or more. Children are those, whose mothers do not know how to spend their money to get the best returns in food value."

RECOGNIZE POSTAL UNIONS.

London, England, Aug. 2.—The government has again recognized the postal unions, meaning that these organizations shall appoint one-half of the committee which will consider the best make effective in the civil service the recommendations of the Whitley commission. The government will appoint the other members of the committee.

The national council's function is, it is stated, to consider and advise on the following general questions: The adjustment of disputes between employers and employes; the civil service it provides for a national council, departmental councils and district and other committees.

BIG IRON STRIKE ENDS.

Reading, Pa., Aug. 2.—The Reading Iron company has declared that an agreement with the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, has been signed. The men have before agreements with this concern have been oral.

The new scale is $10.75 a ton for puddlers. About 10,000 puddlers are affected by the settlement. The strike company maintains based their wage scales on rates paid by the Reading company. Thousands of eastern puddlers have been idle because of this dispute.

PASS SEMI-MONTHLY PAY.

Atlanta, Aug. 2.—The state legislature has passed a semi-monthly pay law for all labor. It was signed by the governor. Opponents relied on that old veteran, General Unconstitutionality, to postpone this small grant.

RE-ELECT O'CONNOR.

Galveston, Tex., Aug. 2.—President O'Connor was re-elected at the biennial convention of the International Longshoremen's union. The constitution was amended to debar from membership any man connected with any line of corporation except as a longshoreman.

SHIP STRIKE IS WON.

New York, Aug. 2.—The strike of seamen, firemen and other employes of the Clyde steamship company, private shipping trade has been settled by the ship owners day this, of course, and insist that they intended to grant the demands, anyway. Under the terms of the settlement wages are increased, hours are reduced and promises made that other grievances will be remedied.

The strike was successful in every waged by these workers on the Atlantic coast. Only one ship is in this city alone between 500 and 600 ships were tied up. Every one who is not unionists agreed to man a fleet of cattle boats, which carried several thousand milk cows to France.

WRITERS ARE IN CLOVER.

New York, Aug. 2.—Writers who dislike the drudgery of earning their daily bread by honest effort are in clover these days and can sell all sorts of stuff to the daily press.

In last Sunday's New York World a Danville, Ky., correspondent filled with a whole page, including photographs and cuts, on the site announced for the Riverside and Dan cemetery mills, at Danville, which will "settle" the labor problem.

The plan provides for a house of representatives and senate, both elected by a popular vote of the employes; a senate composed of foremen and administrative officers of the company, and a cabinet composed of the president of the company, who has the power to veto any suggestion by the house or senate.

The scheme is an elaboration of similar plans, but the Danville correspondent has not got it clear in shape. He says these employes "have virtually taken charge of the company," and that the plan is "a step in advance of industrial democracy."

The correspondent will undoubtedly be rewarded for his work when he receives his check from the World.

JUGGLE EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

Paris, France, Aug. 2.—The vigilance and strength of organized workers is necessary to check crafty employers who are trying to work out of benefits intended under the eight-hour law, declares Jouhaux of the French parliament.

The employers' favorite scheme is to reduce wages below the point which prevailed under the old hours. This is being done by the new law and the unionists are compelled to fight to maintain the power to enforce a standard wage.

Many strikes are forcing the eight hour day and new regulations have been issued.

FLU COST 450,000 LIVES.

New York, Aug. 2. — Statistics compiled by a life insurance company show that the death toll from the recent influenza epidemic resulted in the death of 450,000 persons and cost insurance companies $150,000,000. Previous flu epidemics attacked adolescents and children. The late epidemic took its greatest toll from infants and persons in the prime of life. The death rate from mortality occurred among wage earners and was lowest that those best situated economically.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 1.—Officers of the New Jersey state federation of labor have issued a call for the forty-fifth annual convention of that body, this city beginning September 2. In the call issued by President Holt it is stated that "almost all labor legislation during the past 40 years is the result of the earnest efforts of the state federation."

WINNING EIGHT HOURS.

Joplin, Mo., Aug. 2.—Organized machinists in this district are winning the eight-hour day. They succeeded where the first of last month and are rapidly securing agreements.

TAILORS WANT MORE.

Brockton, Mass. Aug 2.—Journeymen tailors have asked employers to raise wages from $35 to a week to $38 and reduce the work week from 48 hours to 44.